

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OF OCTOBER 10, 1939

The Board of Public Works met in the office of the Governor, State House, Annapolis, on Tuesday, October 10, 1939.

Present:

Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor
J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director of the Department of Budget and Procurement, attended the meeting.

Mr. Kirkman submitted to the Board information he had received from several of the State Examining Boards as to their probable receipts and disbursements in the fiscal year 1940. Mr. Kirkman was requested to secure more information as to the Board of Electrical Examiners and Supervisors, the Board of Barber Examiners and the Board of Chiropractic Examiners. In several instances the receipts of the Examining Boards are so small that the Board felt it unnecessary to give much consideration to the fiscal affairs of these boards, but in the case of the other boards, where the receipts would seem to be more than necessary to take care of the ordinary operating expenses, more consideration had to be given to the affairs of these boards to see that any excess in receipts is not used in holding unnecessary meetings, or for other purposes, instead of reverting excess fees to the State Treasury.

Mr. Kirkman will look into this and report further to the Board.

Mr. Kirkman brought to the attention of the Board a request from the Maryland Training School for Boys that it be allowed to purchase miscellaneous equipment at an estimated cost of \$3,182.00, funds for which are provided in the General Bond Issue of 1939.

The request was approved.

The Board approved a budget amendment submitted by the Traffic Court, for the fiscal year 1939.

Mr. Kirkman brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Miners Hospital, requesting that the unexpended balance in the account of the hospital, for the fiscal year 1939, of approximately \$1500.00, be used for making certain repairs and for the purchase of equipment.

The request was approved.

Mr. Kirkman took up with the Board the question of budgets for the Small Loan Commissioner and the Department of Parole and Probation, for the fiscal years 1940 and 1941. The Governor said he wanted to take up with the Commissioner the budget for her department, and that approval would have to be deferred for the time being.

The budget for the Department of Parole and Probation was approved.

Mr. Kirkman submitted to the Board for consideration amendments to budgets of the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, State Teachers College at Frostburg and State Teachers College at Bowie, calling attention to the fact that the amendments contemplated increases in salaries in certain items, where these salaries had been subject to consideration by the Legislature, and the amounts set forth in the law were definitely fixed by action of the Legislature in its consideration of the budgets. It was felt by the Board that such amendments should not be considered at this time, and that the agencies should operate on the salaries as set forth in the budget, until such time as the Board felt it imperative to give further consideration to these budgets.

Mr. Kirkman submitted to the Board an amendment for Cheltenham School for Boys, whereby all of the estimated unexpended balances in the various budget items were transferred to an item for Structures, so that it would be possible for the School to proceed with the building of two cottages, to take care of employees of the School for whom there are no housing facilities at the present time, and for a mule stable, to take care of the mules belonging to the institution, which are now kept in several sheds. The amount to be made available for this construction work will be approximately \$18,000.00.

The Board approved the amendment and the construction of the two cottages and the mule stable.

An amendment changing the classifications and salaries of employees of the State Employment Commissioner's Office, to provide, in the fiscal year 1940, salaries equal to those received by the employees in 1939, was approved.

The Board approved an amendment to the budget of the Board of Correction, providing for pension received by Mr. Robert D. Case, former Secretary and Treasurer of the Board, who retired September 30, 1939. Under the amendment Mr. Case will receive a pension equivalent to one-half of the salary received by him while in active service, or \$2,250.00 a year.

The Board approved an amendment to the budget of the Board of Education for the fiscal year 1939.

The Board approved an amendment to the budget of the Maryland Bureau of Mines, relating to work and inspection of scales by that Bureau.

An amendment submitted by the Public Service Commission, requesting change in certain salaries of employees of the Commission, for the fiscal year 1940, was disapproved.

The Board deferred action on an amendment submitted by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles relating to salaries of graphotype operators and examiners, for the fiscal year 1939.

The Board approved an amendment to the budget of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium for the fiscal year 1939.

The Board approved two amendments to the budget of the Maryland State Game and Inland Fish Commission for the fiscal year 1939.

The Board approved an amendment of the State Tobacco Warehouse for the fiscal year 1939.

The Board approved an amendment to the budget of the Conservation Department for the fiscal year 1939, in the amount of \$14,170.18.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Dr. Cullen, Superintendent of the Maryland Tuberculosis Sanatorium, relative to salaries of nurses at Henryton.

The Board deferred action in this matter until a later date.

The Board approved an amendment to the Budget of Springfield State Hospital, for the fiscal year 1940.

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Mr. Kirkman took up with the Board the question of salaries for employees of the State Department of Public Welfare. The Board had previously considered a request from the Department that it establish a salary arrangement involving minimum and maximum salaries for various classifications of employment, with automatic increases each year, over a five year period. Mr. Kirkman stated that Mr. Patterson had revised his request to the extent that the Department would like to have authority to increase the salaries for 1940, with no further authority for increase, and the subject to be governed by action to be taken by the State after a survey is made.

The Board disapproved the request because it did not feel it could depart from its previous stand that it would only consider amendments to the budget of the State Department of Public Welfare on the same basis as amendments to budgets of other State agencies.

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Mr. Kirkman stated that a satisfactory arrangement had been made for the continuance of the offices of the Maryland State Game and Inland Fish Commission in the Munsey Building, the rent agreed upon being the best submitted by the owners of that building. The Board approved the making of the lease for the space, at a cost of \$1.43 per square foot. Mr. Kirkman will arrange to have the lease prepared on the standard form.

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Mr. Kirkman took up the question of lease of space for the Board of Education, which is now quartered in the Lexington Building. Mr. Kirkman stated that he would like to look into the question of other space available, and would make a further report to the Board at the next meeting.

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Mr. Kirkman took up with the Board the matter of office space for the offices of the Commissioner of Labor and Statistics, which are now located in the Professional Building, 330 North Charles Street, Baltimore. He stated a proposition had been made for the third floor of the Wonder Building at Baltimore and Liberty Streets, with the exception of one office on that floor, which is being used by the Department of Public Welfare in conjunction with its offices on the second floor, at a rate of \$1.02 per square foot.

The Board was agreeable to the proposition, but because of some representation made by the Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Baltimore, agents for the Professional Building, as to some verbal representation made to them that, while the lease made by the Commissioner of Labor and Statistics for space in that building was for one year, it was felt that they could look forward to a renewal of the lease for two more years. Mr. Kirkman was requested to go into the matter with the Safe Deposit and Trust Company and obtain further information on the subject.

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The Board approved a request of Mr. J. Milton Patterson, Director of the Department of Public Welfare, that he be authorized to continue the leasing of warehouse space at 2409 W. Franklin Street, Baltimore, for supplies received from the Surplus Commodities Corporation.

The request was approved.

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Mr. Kirkman brought to the attention of the Board a request from the Maryland Commission on Scholarships for Negroes, that it be allowed to continue renting office space at 2016 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, at the rate of \$40.00 per month. It was felt there was no need for the Commission to maintain these offices, and that the money being spent for this purpose would be more useful for scholarships. The Board, therefore, disapproved the request.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the State Teachers' Retirement System, submitting for execution a lease between the Teachers' Retirement System and the Consolidated Gas, Electric Light & Power Co., for office space in the Lexington Building. The landlord made certain changes in the lease.

The Secretary was instructed to submit the proposed lease to the State Law Department for its review and approval.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. Nicholas G. Penniman, 3rd, Attorney, for the Proprietors of Green Mount Cemetery, relative to claim of the corporation for interest on state taxes paid in error. The taxes paid in error were on securities which were wrongfully assessed by the City of Baltimore. The City Collector refunded Baltimore City and State Taxes, and interest on City Taxes. The taxpayer is now asking the State to pay interest on the State Taxes paid in error to the State through the Collector of taxes for Baltimore City.

The claim of the Proprietors of Green Mount Cemetery for the interest was disapproved.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the Land Office, requesting authority to co-operate with the Hall of Records in the purchase of photostat equipment, by trading in the present equipment of the Land Office, in connection with the purchase of new equipment by the Hall of Records, for which there is an appropriation to the Hall of Records in the General Bond Issue of 1939. *Joint*

The request was approved.

The Board approved a lease, on the standard form, between W. Frank Thomas, Lessor, and the Maryland State Department of Health, for apartments 2 and 3, in the building at 13 East Main Street, Westminster, Maryland, to be used as offices, for a term of three years, to commence on the first day of July, 1939, at the rent of \$372.00 per annum, payable in equal monthly installments.

The Board approved payment of a requisition of the Maryland State School for the Deaf, in the amount of \$2,076.70, for repairs to plumbing at the institution, payable out of the appropriation to the School in the General Bond Issue of 1939.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a resolution adopted by the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, thanking the Board for its action in deciding to allow the offices of the Maryland State Game and Inland Fish Commission to be continued in Baltimore.

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a bill of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, in the amount of \$2,530.36, covering balance for telephone service for the General Assembly of 1939. The allowance in the Legislative Budget, for telephone service, was exhausted by the payment of other bills.

The Board approved the payment to the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of \$2,530.36, in settlement of the account, payable out of balances for supplies and printing, in the Legislative Budget.

The Secretary submitted to the Board forms received from Morgan College, to be signed, showing the Board of Public Works as co-sponsor for the National Youth Administration project for Morgan College.

The Secretary was authorized to sign the papers on behalf of the Board.

The Board approved an amendment of the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, showing totals of \$178.60 in the increases and decreases of balance, applicable to the fiscal year ended September 30, 1939.

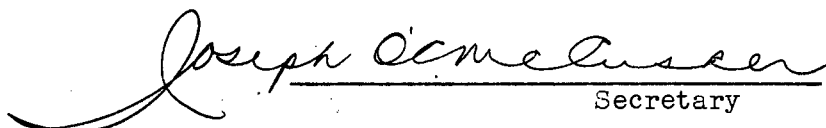
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The Secretary advised the Board of the resignation, as of June 30th, 1939, of Mrs. Ellen C. Ehle, stenographer to the Board, and that in the meantime the stenographic work for the Board had been done by stenographers of the State Comptroller's Office. The Secretary recommended that Miss Margaret E. Hearn, a stenographer on the payroll of the State Comptroller's Office, who has been doing some of the work in the meantime, be designated as stenographer for the Board and that her salary of \$1,500.00 be equally divided between the State Comptroller's Office's Budget and the Board's Budget. The Board approved the recommendation, effective October 16th, 1939.

B.P.W.

The Board approved compensation for the Secretary at the rate of \$1,500.00 per annum, effective from July 1, 1939.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary

The Board approved the transfer of \$400,000.00 in the General Bond Issue of 1939 to the budget of the Maryland State Penal Farm.